

## 'National Wear Red Day' Slated in Garwood For Cardio Disease Awareness on February 4

By ANNA GITHENS  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

GARWOOD—February 4 has been designated "National Wear Red Day For Women" in Garwood by Mayor Dennis McCarthy in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke among women.

All citizens of Garwood are urged to "go red" on Friday, February 4, in order to call attention to the magnitude of cardiovascular disease among women. This includes those involved in organizations, schools, businesses, corporations, media, and simply any employee or citizen who would like to take part in this worthy cause.

According to information provided by the American Heart Association, heart disease and stroke, the number one and number three killer of New Jersey women, claim the lives of close to a half million women each year. This is more than the next seven causes of death combined.

A woman is 10 times more likely to die from heart disease than from breast cancer. The cost of cardiovascular diseases and stroke in the United States is estimated at \$368 billion.

Every year since 1984, more women than men have died from cardiovascular disease and one in five females in the United States have some form of it. Most of the women

who die suddenly of coronary heart disease had no previous symptoms of it.

The American Heart Association initiated the "Go Red For Women" movement to inform women of the serious risks of heart disease and to inspire them to take charge of their cardiovascular health. February is designated as American Heart Month.

Garwood residents are urged to show their support, as well as recognition of family and friends who have suffered from cardiovascular disease and "Go Red" on February 4.

Anyone who like more information on heart disease, or who would like to order Wear Red Day coordinator kits, stickers or pins should visit [www.Americanheart.org](http://www.Americanheart.org) and click on Go Red For Women or call (732) 821-2610 or 1-888-MY-HEART.



TSUNAMI RELIEF...Tara Romano, right, worked with the Plainfield Chapter of the American Red Cross to organize the fundraising drive held Saturday afternoon in the parking lot of the Scotch Plains Municipal Building. The effort raised money for tsunami victims.

## Twp. Resident Leads Effort to Raise Funds For Disaster Victims

By FRED ROSSI  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

SCOTCH PLAINS — A Scotch Plains resident led an effort last Saturday to raise money to help those affected by the December 26 tsunami in South Asia.

Tara Romano, working with the Plainfield chapter of the American Red Cross, organized the fundraising drive that was held on Saturday afternoon in the parking lot of the Scotch Plains Municipal Building on Park Avenue.

"It went real well," she told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*, saying that despite the first real winter-like temperatures of the season, she collected about \$1,000 in cash donations between noon and 4 p.m.

"We didn't get a large number of people," Ms. Romano said, "but the amount of people who did come by gave large donations."

She said that one Scotch Plains family brought a large jar filled with dollar bills and coins — money that had been collected from relatives by the family's two young children — totaling about \$75.

The money raised last week will be given directly to the American Red

Cross, which will send it to the devastated region, where upwards of 150,000 people were killed in last month's tsunami and many times more are homeless and in need of clean drinking water, food, medical supplies and items to help begin to rebuild the region.

"I was watching the news coverage one night, and I felt helpless," Ms. Romano said when asked how she became involved in the effort.

After she came up with the idea of a fundraiser, she asked for and received approval from township officials to use the township parking lot. She then contacted the local Red Cross office in Plainfield, which assisted her with a press release that was distributed in Scotch Plains and took part in last week's fundraiser.

Three area businesses — Dunkin' Donuts on Route 22, Gameland on Park Avenue and Swiss Bakery on East Second Street — donated refreshments and snacks.

Ms. Romano said anyone wishing to make a donation to the tsunami relief effort should send checks payable to the American Red Cross (with "International Relief Fund" in the memo line) to its office at 332 West Front Street, Plainfield, 07060.



RECORD-SETTER...Hillary Klimowicz broke the all-time Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Raider basketball scoring mark of 1,482 points set by Willie McCoy in 1986 during the second quarter of a game with Linden on December 21. After scoring 13 points in nine minutes in the Newark East Side game on January 18, Klimowicz's career total jumped to 1,672 and her season total jumped to 221 points. She was presented with a special basketball, marking her accomplishment. Pictured, left to right, are: Elizabeth DeCataldo, Hillary, Jen Burke and Maura Gillooly.

## Township Man Indicted For Illegally Collecting Unemployment Benefits

TRENTON — A Scotch Plains man has been indicted for illegally collecting unemployment benefits, New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice Director Vaughn L. McKoy has announced.

Samuel Hanciles, 44, was charged by the state's Major Financial Crimes Bureau with illegally collecting \$7,601 in unemployment benefits between January and June 2000, Mr. McKoy said.

The two-count indictment, handed down by a state grand jury on December 21, charged Hanciles with theft by deception and unsworn falsification of records to authorities when he allegedly collected unemployment benefits between January and June 2000.

Hanciles reportedly worked for Johnson and Johnson in New Brunswick during the time frame he was receiving benefits, Mr. McKoy said.

Theft by deception is considered a third degree crime, which carries a maximum penalty of up to five years in state prison and a maximum fine of \$15,000. Unsworn falsification to authorities is considered a fourth-degree crime carrying a maximum prison term of 18 months and a fine of up to \$100,000, Mr. McKoy stated.

Hanciles' case will be assigned to Superior Court in Union County.

His case was one of eight indictments announced by Mr. McKoy. The eight state residents reportedly bilked state unemployment benefits program out of \$58,4900, Mr. McKoy said.

## Plainfield Man Admits Attacking Fanwood Judge; Sentencing Set

By FRED ROSSI  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

FANWOOD — A Plainfield man will be sentenced on April 1 for attempting to attack Fanwood Municipal Court Judge Douglas Hansen in a courtroom last November.

Boris Taylor appeared last week in State Superior Court in Elizabeth and admitted to third-degree resisting arrest and fourth-degree aggravated assault charges stemming from the November 18, 2004 incident in Fanwood Municipal Court.

Mr. Taylor had been arrested a year ago and charged with driving a car while on the revoked list. After missing several court dates following his formal arraignment, Mr. Taylor pled guilty last spring and was sentenced to 10 days in county jail. His public defender asked Judge Hansen to allow Mr. Taylor to serve his sentence as a participant in the Sheriff's Labor Assistance Program (S.L.A.P.), a county initiative that allows qualified non-violent offenders to serve their sentences by performing various community service tasks as part of a group of fellow participants.

In August of 2004, Mr. Taylor was recommended and ultimately accepted into the S.L.A.P. program. Two months later, he returned to Fanwood Court and told Judge Hansen that the program was too restrictive, given his



SPECIAL DELEGATION...A delegation, including Senator Jon Corzine, center, and Congressman Mike Ferguson visited the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln while deployed to Indonesia. Pictured with Sen. Corzine is Rear Admiral Doug Crowder, left. The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times thanks PHC (Chief Photographers Mate) Jon Baker for helping the newspapers obtain this photo.



Former Municipal Judge Douglas Hansen

job and family obligations. Instead, he asked to be sentenced to time in court, whereby a person is essentially confined to a courtroom during the court's regular sessions. Mr. Taylor began a nine-day in-court sentence in early November.

During his first day in court, Mr. Taylor engaged in an argument with Judge Hansen about an unrelated case adjudicated earlier that session. After being warned by the judge not to talk, Mr. Taylor continued arguing and was taken to the Fanwood jail for the remainder of that evening's court session.

On November 18, Mr. Taylor arrived more than two hours late for his in-court service. When Judge Hansen then ordered him to serve the remaining eight days of his sentence in a county facility, Mr. Taylor threw a large table in front of the bench at Judge Hansen and then attempted to

climb onto the dais to physically attack the judge.

It took four Fanwood police officers more than five minutes to restrain Mr. Taylor and end a melee that included Mr. Taylor's mother jumping into the fray.

Mr. Taylor faces three years in state prison as a result of the incident, according to Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow.

Assistant Prosecutor Albert Zabady said his office considered the incident "an assault on the judicial system and wanted it handled in a way that sends a message to others who might disrupt any court proceedings."

Mr. Hansen, who is no longer judge, had no direct comment on Mr. Taylor's plea or possible sentence, telling *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times* that "it's not appropriate for a judge to comment."

He did commend the Fanwood Police Department and the four officers — Sergeant Howard Jarvis, Corporal Martin Haluza, Sergeant Francisco Marrero and Patrolman Kenneth Zwirko — for their bravery and for doing "an outstanding job at their own peril." He noted that the four officers subdued Mr. Taylor in "a very confined space without the use of deadly force," which he said was a testament to their "high level of training and competence."

## Downtown Redevelopment Plan Approved by Borough Board

By DEBORAH MADISON  
Specially Written for The Westfield Leader

FANWOOD — Borough Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustments members gave their unanimous approval Monday night to recommend the revised Downtown Redevelopment Plan to the Borough Council.

After a two-hour presentation by Dave Roberts of Schoor DePalma, board members agreed that this plan was more in line with the preferences and goals of downtown property owners as well as local residents.

The board's recommendation will now go to the Borough Council for a public hearing and a vote.

Mr. Roberts outlined the plan's details to the board, highlighting the differences between this plan and the previous one, which was scrapped after considerable objections by residents and downtown property owners.

The previous plan, which designated one developer to acquire downtown properties and rehabilitate them, was fraught with obstacles and misconceptions, Mr. Roberts told *The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times*.

The new plan gives property owners more leeway in how they want to develop and renovate their own properties and does not rely on a developer buying them out, Mr. Roberts said.

Joseph Higgins, Chairman of the Downtown Redevelopment Committee, who was also present at the meeting, said that the new plan does not rely on condemnation by imminent domain in order to encourage property owners to rehabilitate, a misconception that hindered cooperation with the previous plan. This plan was chosen from four scenarios, as the one most favored by a consensus of downtown property owners, he said.

The Revised Downtown Redevelopment Plan divides the downtown area, from South Avenue to LaGrande and from Martine to Second Street, into three districts: development of the Dean Oil site for residential units, redevelopment of mixed-use buildings on Martine and South Avenue and rehabilitation of residential sites fronting on Martine.

Some of the goals set forth by the plan include linking the Fanwood Train Station with pedestrian use of the downtown, a Victorian design requirement for building facades showcasing architectural features of the gateway stores, and improving pedestrian flow through walkways, plaza areas and streetscape modifications.

Some of the design features proposed to improve pedestrian flow included bump outs, plaza areas, pedestrian easements between stores, and parking lot redesign. Retail buildings will be required to meet rehabilitation standards, such as front and back entrances to improve equal access from

both Martine Avenue and the parking lots as well as meeting all code requirements. Eliminating parking lot areas that front onto Martine Avenue was also recommended.

Each property owner will be expected to submit a rehabilitation application within five years of the start of the first project and will receive a certificate of completion once the rehabilitation has been determined to comply with the plan's requirements. Those properties that have not complied will be revisited by the board for corrective action.

Each district has been granted its own density cap, with the overall residential density cap of 71 units, 24 of

those earmarked for the Dean Oil site. Retail property owners that desire to add on a second floor for residential units can use the remainder.

Two proposals for the Dean Oil property were discussed, including two-bedroom, luxury townhouses or one apartment building with Victorian features. Five years ago, a 35-unit building was voted down and more recently a 25-unit building was also rejected, due in part to considerable opposition by adjacent residents.

The townhouses would be priced sufficiently high such that families with children will be priced out, Mr. Roberts explained to the board. In this way, the impact on the school district will be minimized without having to impose an age-restriction on the units.

The potential need to clean up contaminated soil at the Dean Oil site was discussed. The number of units would have to be sufficient to make the clean up cost effective for a developer to want this piece of property Mr. Roberts said.

Board member Andrew McDonald stated that in his opinion the fear of litigation was more toxic than the actual contaminants in the soil and that over-regulation by environmentalists was the real obstacle in developing the property.

Board Chairman Gregory Cummings said that density control, which this plan had, was the key. He also stated that he had reservations about the proposed pedestrian easements.

"I've never seen an alleyway that I liked," Mr. Cummings remarked.

"Summit and Milburn have some nice ones," Mayor's Designee Roseanne Tobey commented.

## WF Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

funded if the developer did not finish the project in the time required by town ordinance.

Mr. Nehring said he would like the town to inspect vacant building lots after a home has been torn down to ensure that the "vacant lot is safe and secure."

In his annual address to residents at the council's reorganization meeting on January 4, Mayor McDermott said town government this year would "examine residential zones in a thorough and comprehensive manner."

He said the goal is not to inhibit homeowners from making improvements to their homes "but to encourage a smarter and more consistent approach to residential improvements in order to keep residential character consistent."



TSUNAMI RELIEF...The 4th grade Weebels from cub scout Pack 270 at Washington School in Westfield conducted a food sale to raise funds for the tsunami relief efforts. The sale took place at play rehearsals for the annual Washington School Show held at Roosevelt Intermediate School. Pictured, from left to right, are: Liam McElheny, Austin Fishman, Spencer Fishman, Daniel Cetlin, Austin Thien and Joseph Salmon.



MONDAY, JANUARY 10

Yekaterina Zhvanetsky, 35, of Brooklyn, N.Y. was arrested at South and Central Avenues and charged with driving while intoxicated. She was released on her own recognizance to a responsible adult.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12

Jason Ryan, 19, of Westfield was arrested on Maye Street and charged with defiant trespass after he allegedly refused to leave a residence there. It was unknown whether or not he knew the owner of the residence. Ryan was released on his own recognizance with a summons.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

Westfield police charged Daryl Lofton, 36, of Irvington with shoplifting multiple Coach handbags from a North Avenue store. Scotch Plains police arrested Lofton a short time after the theft occurred, based on a vehicle description and license plate number supplied to police by store security. He was being held at the Union County Jail on \$2,500 bail.

Suzanne Marks, 49, of Westfield was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated at Palsted Avenue and Hort Street. She was released on her own recognizance to a responsible adult.

Lawrence Maher, 56, of Cranford was arrested at Springfield Avenue and East Broad Street and charged with driving while intoxicated. He was released on his own recognizance to a responsible adult.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

Phillip Uhl, 58, of Scotch Plains was arrested at South Avenue and Crossway Place and charged with driving while intoxicated. He was released on his own recognizance to a responsible adult.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

Joseph Wisniewski, 19, John Zaccaro, 19, and David Rudnicki, 27, all of Westfield, and Kenneth Boger, 21, of Olean, N.Y., were arrested following a motor vehicle stop at North and Edgewood Avenues.

Each of the men was charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. Wisniewski and Zaccaro were additionally charged with possession of alcohol under the legal age. All were released with summonses.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

Michelle Tesman, 19, and Emmanuel Grau, 21, both of Union, were arrested following a motor vehicle stop at the intersection of North Scotch Plains Avenue and Cumberland Street.

Both were charged with possession of less than 50 grams of suspected marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. They were released on their own recognizance.

## Borough Council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

back along with the journal and sometimes pictures. Afterwards, children share with their classmates what Stanley has done, where he has been and plot his travels on a map.

In other business, resident Don Sharkey addressed the governing body in support of a resolution passed to authorize the County of Union to attain a special deer management permit for the borough to participate in the deer management program scheduled in March.

He noted that the county had told him that 188 deer were recorded by the county, where the ideal population, according to the county's statistics, should be around 60.

He also asked Mayor Vigilanti and council members if there was an ordinance in Mountainside regarding prohibiting homeowners from feeding the deer as his neighbor leaves out bags of feed for the animals. He noted that this not only attracted the deer but also mice.

Borough Attorney John Post stated that at present, Mountainside does not have such an ordinance but that the governing body could look into the possibility of passing one.

Mr. Post noted that he knew of other towns having such an ordinance and that he and the governing body would do some research into the matter.

Mayor Vigilanti also stated that he had received a "hefty petition" from Mountainside residents in favor of the deer management program. He noted that it was the first time the borough had received such a petition and that he personally had a fence put in his yard because he had so many deer around his property.

Mr. Sharkey stated that he knew of the petition, but had not signed it.

Become a Subscriber:  
Call (908) 232-4407